

Sanction for desilting of pond in Halvad, Gujarat

2832. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for desilting of a famous pond in Halvad of Gujarat State was sanctioned either by State or Central Government;
- (b) if so, what was the estimated cost of the scheme; and
- (c) whether the scheme has been completed?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) Desiltation of village ponds/tanks is a permitted activity under Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). However, any work to be taken up under the EAS has to form part of the Annual Action Plan which is approved by Zilla Parishad. The details of such works are maintained at the District level. The Department of Rural Development, State Government of Gujarat has intimated that no such work has been taken up under the EAS.

(b) and (c) Questions does not arise.

Restructuring rural development programmes

2833. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of actual expenditure incurred for rural development programmes during the last three years, till date, programme-wise and year-wise;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to redesign and restructure the rural development programmes at institutional, delivery and on voluntary sector levels; and
- (c) if so, the details of the new programmes and strategies drawn up further to develop rural India?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) The details of actual expenditure incurred under rural development programmes of the Ministry of